



*NEWS YOU CAN USE!*

# PENINSULA TOWNSHIP

Summer 2008

[www.peninsulatownship.com](http://www.peninsulatownship.com)

## **HOT TOPICS**

- ▶ Currently, the Peninsula Township Fire Department handles fire and emergency medical services for the Township from two locations on Center Road. We have four full time firefighters and sixteen volunteers. Our equipment for fire fighting and medical emergencies is in excellent condition. We also have a mutual agreement to work with other local fire departments and ambulance services in the area.

At the April Town Board meeting, citizens and Town Board members discussed future issues facing the Fire Department. For the past 18 months, a committee of three Fire Department personnel, two Board members and two citizens had been grappling with future issues facing the Fire Department. Discussion included an array of topics including fulltime vs. volunteer, optimum fire station location, insurance rates for property owners, federal and state regulations, response time to emergencies, equipment and training, shared resources with other fire/emergency services in the region and increased taxes for fire protection. In April, Town Board members were inclined to hire an outside consultant to help sort out the many options and put some financial data against the options. However, instead of hiring an outside consultant, three local people offered to frame all of the issues facing the Fire Department and present alternatives to the Township. This committee is: retired executive E. Sherman Atkinson, commercial banker Bob Blackmer and retired DNR forestry manager Joe Fields. The committee findings will be presented to the Town Board in September.

## **SPECIAL USE PERMITS AND ORDINANCES CURRENTLY BEING DISCUSSED AT EITHER THE TOWN BOARD OR THE PLANNING COMMISSION**

- **Special Use Permit 98** – Orchards at Bowers Harbor 41 unit (PUD)/Condominium Subdivision
- **Special Use Permit 105** – Boathouse Restaurant kitchen and deck improvements
- **Special Use Permit 106** – Old Mission Tavern patio awning
- **Special Use Permit 109** – St. Joseph's Catholic Church 550 seat church, community hall, offices, classrooms and rectory at 12655 Center Road
- **Ordinance Amendment 175** – Dark Night Sky Ordinance
- **Ordinance Amendment 177** – Detached residential garage standards
- **Ordinance Amendment 178** – Ordinance changes required for compliance with the recent Michigan Planning Act

## **STAY INFORMED**

Plan to attend the meetings, write letters and call Planning Commission and Town Board members to voice your concerns on these and other issues. To keep up with notices, agendas, reports, minutes and meetings, check the web site regularly at [www.peninsulatownship.com](http://www.peninsulatownship.com). Notice of Public Hearings and a synopsis of Town Board meeting minutes are also found in the Record Eagle classified section. The Town Board and Planning Commission have additional posted/open meetings at the Town Hall other than the regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

**KUDOS**

- ▶ Thanks to Sherman Atkinson, Bob Blackmer and Joe Fields for preparing recommendations for the Fire Department.
- ▶ Thanks to the Cemetery Committee members Judy Trentham, Mary Swift, Pete Bentley, Terri Harding and Sue Pontes for improving our Peninsula Drive Township cemetery.
- ▶ Thanks to the Old Mission Women's Club for planting and caring for the flowers at the Township Office.
- ▶ Our apologies to Sharon Tapp for misspelling her name in the Spring Issue. Sharon is serving on the Board of Review.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- ▶ The Township has joined with the Grand Traverse Area Veterans Coalition and other townships to sponsor the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fire works. Grab a blanket and the kids and go watch the show. Since the Cherry Festival is opening that weekend, all of the festival amenities will be available for the afternoon and evening of the 4<sup>th</sup> too.
- ▶ Construction of the water system improvements which will serve the south end of the Township are scheduled to begin in late June with a proposed completion date of November 15, 2008. The project includes 9,900 linear feet of water main installation, a new water storage tank, relocation of a booster station and connection of smaller private water systems to the main lines. The construction project was bid and Elmer's Crane and Dozer had the low bid for just under \$1,884,000. Funding for the project is through the State of Michigan Drinking Water Revolving Fund. Your patience through this construction project is greatly appreciated. Contact Marty Alley at Gourdie Fraser on 946-5874 with any questions you may have.
- ▶ The Cemetery Committee has been working on improvements for the Peninsula Township Cemetery on Peninsula Drive. The 20 acre site will have a well and water pump, a designated parking area, a columbarium, an attractive stone wall entrance feature, permanent pathways, landscaping and a peaceful forested area. Under consideration is an area for pets and green/natural burials.
- ▶ The Primary Election is being held on August 5<sup>th</sup> from 7am to 8pm at Precincts 1 (Town Hall) and 2 (Fire Station No. 2) In addition to congressional, state and county candidates, the ballot will include the Town Board, Library Board, and Parks Commission as well as a Senior Center millage levy proposal. If you will be voting by absentee ballot, contact the Clerk for an absentee ballot application if you have not previously signed-up.

**OPERATING INFO**

- ▶ The Summer Recreation Program at Bowers Harbor Park started June 16<sup>th</sup> and goes through August 21<sup>st</sup>. Your children can play soccer, volleyball, softball, kickball and enjoy arts and crafts, Irish dancing, sign language, storytelling and nature activities. The program runs for 10 weeks at the cost of \$10 per child (large families pay no more than \$25 per week). Parents can register their children for a week or the whole season. Please call the Office Manager on 223-7322 or check the website to find out more information about sign-up procedures or contact Jackie Richer, Recreation Director, on 218-4128 (C) or 922-9834 (H).
- ▶ A Tennis Clinic will be offered the week of August 11<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> (Monday through Thursday) at Bowers Harbor Park. The sessions are open to all ages and ability levels at various times in the morning of those days. For more information or to sign-up call Tim Moore, Tennis Coach, at 946-7018.
- ▶ Summer means more traffic, farm machinery, runners and cyclists. Please slow down and be considerate of others. Our deputy says if you speed you won't succeed...he'll be out there looking for violators. By the way, you can get better mileage when you drive at lower speeds.

**OPERATING INFO** (CONT. FROM PAGE 2)

- ▶ **Up and Running!!** The Treasurer's Office is pleased to announce that you can now pay your tax bills (being distributed June 30<sup>th</sup>) online by using your checking account or credit card. Please see the colored insert enclosed with your tax bill for instructions. Also, remember that you can view your tax information through the Township website. Information is available for each parcel dating back to 2002. This includes tax bills and receipts. Please contact the Treasurer on 223-4484 should you need help navigating the site. Tax bills are due by September 14, 2008. Since the date falls on a weekend, payments will be accepted on September 15<sup>th</sup> without penalty. Also, for your convenience, an after-hours drop box is located at the entrance to the Township Office. Summer Tax Deferment forms are available online too.
- ▶ **Restoration work on the icehouse at the rear of the Dougherty House is proceeding nicely with the completion of the building's stone foundation.** The first load of rough-sawn hemlock was delivered and carpenter, Jeff Reinhardt, has started reconstruction of the actual building. Also the results of the Historic Structures Report on the Dougherty House being done by Prof. Ted Ligibel's class in Historic Preservation at Eastern Michigan University will be presented July 20th at the old Township Hall at 4:00pm. Lastly, join the fun(d)-raiser for the Dougherty House on the evening of Saturday, August 9th. This Country Western event includes a catered barbecue dinner, live & silent auctions, entertainment and dancing. Tickets are \$40/ person and are available at Peninsula Market beginning July 1st.
- ▶ **Isn't it time to clean the garage?** The County recycling program will accept household hazardous materials such as pesticides, turpentine, and lead based products on July 31 and September 25. You must register ahead at [www.recyclesmart.info](http://www.recyclesmart.info) or on (231) 941-5555 to make arrangements. Just a reminder, batteries and cell phones can be recycled in the Township Office Lobby.

**HELP WANTED**

The Township is looking for a part-time person who would be willing to work periodically at the front desk. Contact the Clerk for more information.

Would you like to serve on the Planning Commission or the Zoning Board of Appeals? The position is a 3-year appointment. Contact the Clerk to express your interest. Interviews will be conducted in July for August appointments.

The Clerk is hiring a full-time Deputy Clerk to assist with elections, personnel, accounts payable, general ledger and payroll. Contact the Clerk for more information.

The Township is looking for a part-time seasonal person to empty the trash and clean the bathrooms at the parks. Contact the Supervisor or Treasurer for more information.

**DIRECTORY**

<b>Office Manager:</b>	
Wendy Wittkop	223-7322
	Fax 223-7117
officemanager@peninsulatownship.com	
<b>Supervisor:</b>	
Rob Manigold	223-7322
supervisor@peninsulatownship.com	
<b>Clerk:</b>	
Monica Hoffman	223-7321
clerk@peninsulatownship.com	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	
Dave Weatherholt	223-4484
treasurer@peninsulatownship.com	
<b>Trustees:</b>	
Jill Byron	932-1339
Jed Hemming	223-7396
Jim Horton	223-4282
Penny Rosi	223-7560
<b>Assessor:</b>	
Sally Akerley	223-7313
assessor@peninsulatownship.com	
<b>Planner:</b>	
Gordon Hayward	223-7314
planner@peninsulatownship.com	
<b>Zoning Administrator:</b>	
Gordy Uecker	223-7318
zoning@peninsulatownship.com	
<b>Compactor/Recy. Station</b>	<b>223-4446</b>
<b>Fire Department</b> (non-emergency)	<b>223-4443</b>
<b>Old Mission Penin. School</b>	<b>933-7420</b>
<b>Park and Meeting Room</b> <b>Reservations</b>	<b>223-7322</b>
<b>Peninsula Comm. Library</b>	<b>223-7700</b>
<b>Sheriff (non-emergency)</b>	<b>223-4525</b>

**SCHEDULES and EVENTS**

**Town Board**  
 (second Tuesday at 7 pm)  
 July 8  
 August 12  
 September 9

**Planning Commission**  
 (third Monday at 7 pm)  
 July 21  
 August 18  
 September 15

**Zoning Board of Appeals**  
 (second Thursday at 7 pm)  
 July 10  
 August 14  
 September 11

**Park Commission**  
 (first Wednesday at 7 pm)  
 July 2  
 August 6  
 September 3

**Board of Review**  
 July 22 from 9 – 11 am  
 For clerical errors and  
 mutual mistake of fact  
 (valuation disputes are not  
 taken at this meeting)

**Old Mission Peninsula  
 Historical Society**  
 (first Thursday at 7 pm  
 Town Hall)  
 August 7  
 September 4

**Mission Point Lighthouse  
 Dedication**  
 July 12 at the Lighthouse

**Historic Structures Report**  
 July 20  
 4pm at the Old Town Hall

**Peninsula Community Library  
 Book Sale**  
 July 23 (Friends) – July 26  
 Peninsula School Cafeteria  
 Call 223-7700 about details and  
 to join Friends of the Library

**OM Wine and  
 Food Celebration**  
 WOMP in the Park  
 September 6th from noon – 5pm  
 Bowers Harbor Park

**American Legion Dinners**  
 (first and third Tuesday 6:30 pm)  
 American Legion Hall  
 Swaney Rd.

**Cherry Festival 15K Race**  
 Morning of July 12th  
 Race route is East Shore Road to  
 McKinley to Peninsula Drive

**Peter Dougherty Society  
 Annual Fund Raiser**  
 August 9th from 5:30pm – 9pm  
 Country Western BBQ and Line  
 Dancing  
 Meyer's Red Barn on Center Road  
 North of Island View Road  
 Tickets at Peninsula Market – \$40

**Compactor Station Hours:**  
 Wednesdays: noon – 6 pm  
 Saturdays: 9 am – 5 pm  
 Recycling at any time

The Peninsula Township Office is  
 open Monday through Friday 8:00 am  
 until noon and 1:00 pm until 4:30 pm.  
 The office is closed on Friday, July  
 4th for Independence Day and Mon-  
 day, September 1st for Labor Day.

